

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TRIPOL 01094 090407Z
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SAA-01 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05
L-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-04 MCT-01
H-01 IO-06 /051 W
-----008308 090413Z /21/64

R 081030Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5726
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1094

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y TEXT (GARBLED THROUGHOUT)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, LY, US
SUBJECT: FIRST MEETING WITH LIBYAN DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS

1. SINCE LIBYAN DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL IS CURRENTLY IN PEKING, MY FIRST OFFICIAL CONTACT AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AUGUST 7 WAS WITH DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS TAJUDDIN JARBI. JARBI SPENT MUCH OF 1960'S WITH LIBYAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, SO IT WAS POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS US-LIBYAN RELATIONS WITH GREATER FRANKNESS AND IN MORE DETAIL THAN WOULD HAVE BEEN THE CASE WITH MOST OTHER LIBYAN OFFICIALS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TRIPOL 01094 090407Z

2. MY APPROACH WAS THAT, IN SPITE OF DIFFERENCES IN VIEWPOINT AND POLICY BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, I HAD COME TO LIBYA WITH INTENTION OF CONTACTING AS MANY LIBYANS AS POSSIBLE AND ENGAGING IN AS FULL AND USEFUL A DIALOGUE AS COULD BE HAD UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. SUCH A DIALOGUE WOULD HOPEFULLY LEAD TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BY EACH PARTY OF THE POSITION OF THE

OTHER AND PERHAPS ON SOME ISSUES TO ACCOMMODATIONS THAT WOULD PERMIT OUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIP TO MOVE FORWARD.

3. AS AN EXAMPLE OF OUR CONCERNS I CITED LIBYA'S RECORD--ESPECIALLY THAT OF A FEW YEARS BACK--WITH REGARD TO HIJACKING AND TERRORISM. LIBYA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THIRD COUNTRIES AND THE ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUE WERE ALSO MENTIONED. I SUGGESTED THAT WE BEGIN WITH MODEST EXPECTATIONS AND EXERCISE AS MUCH PATIENCE AS POSSIBLE.

4. JARBI RECIPROCATED DESIRE FOR DIALOGUE AND EMPHASIZED THAT THIS HAD BEEN LIBYAN GOAL FOR PAST SEVERAL YEARS. LIBYA HAD WANTED TO SEND AN AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON AND STILL THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE USEFUL. MEANWHILE, HE AND FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD TRIED TO KEEP RELATIONS FROM DETERIORATING FURTHER AND PREVENT HIGHER LEVELS OF LIBYAN GOVERNMENT FROM OVER-REACTING TO US DECISIONS AFFECTING LIBYA. NOTING WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ALGERIA, JARBI WONDERED WHY SIMILAR RELATIONS COULD NOT BE DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND LIBYA WHOSE POSITIONS WERE SIMILAR TO ALGERIA'S. HE THOUGHT SOME LIBYANS MIGHT UNDERSTAND OUR MOVE TO WITHDRAW LOCKHEED MAINTENANCE TEAM AND EVEN TO PREVENT SALE OF OSHKOSH TRUCKS. HOWEVER, THERE WAS STRONG AND UNANIMOUS FEELING THAT CUTTING OFF CIVILIAN BOEING AIRCRAFT WOULD BE AN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TRIPOL 01094 090407Z

EXCESSIVELY UNFRIENDLY ACT. HE SAID THAT HE AND OTHERS WHO WANTED BETTER US-LIBYAN RELATIONS HOPED THAT SUCH A STEP WOULD NOT IN FACT BE TAKEN.

5. IN REPLY, I AGAIN REFERRED TO THE STRONG PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDE TOWARD TERRORISM AND SUGGESTED THAT IF THE LIBYAN POSITION HAD CHANGED FOR THE BETTER DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS THIS FACT HAD PERHAPS NOT BEEN REGISTERED BY LIBYA'S CRITICS.

6. JARBI REFERRED TO QADHAFI'S JULY 4 MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER AS AN INDICATION THAT LIBYA SOUGHT DIALOGUE AND BETTER RELATIONS. HE DID NOT DENY, HOWEVER, THAT SEVERAL OF THE REFERENCES TO LIBYAN POLITICAL VIEWS CONTAINED IN THAT MESSAGE MIGHT BETTER HAVE BEEN SAVED FOR A LATER STAGE IN THE DIALOGUE. HE NOTED THAT LIBYA'S UN AMBASSADOR KIKHYA WAS CURRENTLY IN TRIPOLI. HE HAD IMPRESSION KIKHYA REMAINED TROUBLED BY HIS INABILITY TO OBTAIN APPOINTMENT WITH THE SECRETARY TO DELIVER QADHAFI'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER, OR AN UPDATED VERSION THEREOF. I SUGGESTED THAT KIKHYA MIGHT BETTER BEGIN BY SEEING NEWSOM, WHOM

LIBYAN OFFICIALS KNOW AND HOLD IN HIGH REGARD.

7. JARBI OFFERED TO DO ALL HE COULD TO HELP ME DURING MY STAY IN LIBYA, INCLUDING HELPING ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS AT HIGHER LEVELS. HE DID NOT SEEM TO KNOW, HOWEVER, AT WHAT LEVEL I WOULD BE RECEIVED. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS WILL DEPEND TO SOME EXTENT ON KIKHYA'S AND LIBYAN CHARGE'S ACCESS TO US OFFICIALS.
EAGLETON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TRIPOL01094
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780332-0114
Format: TEL
From: TRIPOLI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780885/aaaactnt.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3efc6d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1799291
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST MEETING WITH LIBYAN DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS
TAGS: PEPR, LY, US, (JARBI, TAJUDDIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3efc6d66-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014